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SOURCE Atdeu [Organ of the Legitimist Movement]USSR TO TRANSFORM BALTIC INTO MILITARY TRAINING GROUND;
STRENGTHENS EAST GERMAN FORTIFICATIONS, POLICE

Soviet military authorities are about to transform the Baltic area into a vast military training ground. This will explain the evacuation of this area.

Naval Activities

The Soviet authorities are paying special attention to the construction of naval units and particularly to the modernization of the naval ports. The bureau of construction for the Soviet naval force at Karlshorst has been charged with coordinating the work in question. The East German government has granted the above-mentioned bureau a fund of 80 million Deutsche marks annually.

The ports of Wismar, Warnemuende, Rostock, and Stralsund are building large piers for 2,000-ton warships of the Marviek class. In addition, eight PT boats, U-1 submarines of 600 gross tons, V-21s [sic] of 2,000 gross tons, and V-28s [sic] of 2,500 gross tons are in the process of construction. All the submarines are equipped with Walter engines.

The 6,638-ton Soviet ship Komintern and the 3,600-ton cruiser Marty are under construction in the Rostock Shipyards. The German ship "er Reutscher" [sic] is being transformed into a military transport and henceforth will be known as Alsa. The capacity of the 12,000-ton Cordollero will be enlarged to 18,000 tons. The ships Mana and Oceania are undergoing repair. All the work at Rostock is under strict surveillance by Commander Brusinac (fnu).

Six submarines a month are being constructed in the Peenemuende shipyard. The director of the shipyard is Moreff (fnu), a Soviet expert. Fast motorboats and submarine chasers are being constructed. Special cutters powered by six- and eight-cylinder diesel motors are also produced in this yard.

Szczecin is the Soviet naval center. The shipyard produces four submarines a month, but this number will be increased to six during the second quarter 1950. At the moment, U-21 and U-28 submarines are under construction and 5,000 workers are engaged in this work.

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The Leba and Garder Seas are submarine bases which have recently been completed.

According to authentic information, the Soviets have 200 submarines in the North Sea. The submarine headquarters is at Memel.

Aviation

The center of East German aviation is Mecklenburg, where General Brandt (fnu) and Colonel Martnack (fnu) have their general headquarters.

For the training of German pilots, there are 25 Yak-9 fighter aircraft at the Reclim airfield.

Fortifications

Fortifications of all kinds have been constructed along the Pilau-Memel Sector. Radar installations are conspicuous in the districts of Wismar, Memel, and Libau. In the Windau region there are slips for U-2s and U-8s [launching platforms for V-2 and V-8].

The greater part of the munitions depots are located at Schwerin, Garnow, Stargard, and elsewhere [in Mecklenburg].

Police

The People's Police numbers 360,000 men. It is equipped with old-type T-34 tanks.

The German underground, which has been responsible for many acts of sabotage, has forced the Soviet authorities to reinforce the People's Police so that it is now similar to the Soviet police force.

The East German Secret Police is responsible to the Soviet intelligence service. Its central organization, the Staatssicherheitsdienst (State Security Service), is headed by Major Beumler (fnu) and his adjutant, Captain Adam (fnu). Soviet Colonel Turkanov is its inspector.

The NKVD has also been reinforced. Its main office is in Brandenburg and it is under command of Colonel Anahina (fnu) and Captain Aladanovin (fnu).

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